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**For Immediate Release**

### **Winter and Holiday Preparations Underway in Birmingham**

BIRMINGHAM, MI, November 16, 2017 – Temperatures are getting colder and the holiday season is almost here, which means Birmingham’s Department of Public Services (DPS) staff members are hard at work. Machines are being prepped for snow removal, trees are being adorned with lights, and the holiday tree is being erected where the fountain recently flowed in Shain Park.

The City’s salt dome is ready with approximately 3,250 tons of salt. An impressive fleet of equipment consists of six plow/salt trucks for the roads, plus small pickup trucks equipped to plow and salt parking structures, dead ends and other tight areas.

“We are proud of our anti-icing and pre-wetting salt methods using brine. We have been fortunate to practice this for several years with great success,” said Lauren Wood, Birmingham’s Director of Public Services. “Our goal is to use the least amount of salt with the maximum effect for safe winter travel.”

Meanwhile, DPS crews are busy decorating approximately 370 trees in the downtown area. Each tree is adorned with 30 strands of lights with 70 lights per strand. A quick math calculation reveals 777,000 LED lights in downtown Birmingham. In addition, the City’s 35-foot blue spruce holiday tree features more than 22,000 LED lights.



When the snow flies and the holidays are upon us, the City will be ready to welcome the community with safe roads for traveling and a picturesque downtown aglow for the holiday season.

*City of Birmingham – A Walkable Community. Visit the city’s web site at [www.bhamgov.org](http://www.bhamgov.org).*

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